



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

BOOK REVIEWS.

THE WORKING CLASS MOVEMENT IN AMERICA. By EDWARD and ELEANOR MARY AVELING. Second Edition. Pp. 239, with Appendix. London: Swan, Sonnenschein & Co. 1891.

THE statement of the authors at the beginning of this book that the phrase "Working Class Question in America" is to them, in the main, synonymous with "Socialism in America," reveals the character and bias of their work. The authors state that the knowledge necessary for its preparation was gained in a fifteen weeks' tour in the United States in the fall of 1886, from the labor journals of our country and from the Reports of the Bureaus of Labor. Traveling under the auspices of the Socialistic Labor Party and conversing with its representatives in the different cities visited, it is not strange that the authors should show themselves poorly informed about the classes of our people. They conceive of our population as divided into a cruel employing class, and a working class crushed by every sort of tyranny. Of the vast middle class of our town and country population they are entirely ignorant. A much longer time than fifteen weeks and a more judicial turn of mind than that of the authors are necessary in order to appreciate the political, social and economical organization of our country. A few quotations from Chapter II may emphasize the authors' ignorance: "In America transition stages and classes are, for the most part, wanting." "In America there seems to be no social and intellectual middle class." "There are in America far more trenchant distinctions between the capitalist and laboring class than in the older lands." "At the one end of the scale is the millionaire At the other end is the helpless, starving proletarian." "The workingmen and the capitalists in the ma-

jority of cases quite understand that each as a class is the deadly and inexorable foe of the other.''' Unfortunately, Mr. and Mrs. Aveling are not the only writers on economic questions who assume that the conditions of large manufacturing cities prevail over the entire United States.

In the chapters upon the conduct of employers, wages, work, method of living, woman and child labor, the authors have selected from the vast amount of testimony in the reports of the Bureau of Labor a few complaints of men, who in many cases were out of work, to support their conclusions. That there are many evils in the relation of employer and employee is only too true; but the selected, unsupported statements of discontented laborers cannot be considered to give reliable accounts of our economic condition. Throughout the book there is a very unscientific use of authorities. There is no attempt to balance contradictory evidence and to arrive at a true conclusion as to the average condition of our wage-earners.

The chapter on Anarchists contains a bitter attack upon the courts which convicted the Chicago Anarchists. Mr. and Mrs. Aveling became warm personal friends of the chief counsel of the Anarchists and they accept his statements as conclusive authority.

The book will be of no use to any American reader and it is unfortunate that such an utterly unreliable account of the relations of employer and laborer in the United States should be put before English readers.

HERBERT ELMER MILLS.

Vassar College